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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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hio	1. 9-297229	Nov. 1997	Japan	G02B	6/12	Abstract only

**OTHER REFERENCES****(INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)**

\*EXAMINER  
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hio ✓ 2. S. Kawakami et al., "Vertical Photonics: A New Approach to Integrate Photonic Devices into Optical Fibers", the Proceeding of IEICE, C-I, Vol. J77-C-I, No. 5, pp. 334-339, 1994.

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hio ✓ 4. K. Hirabayashi et al., "Compact Optical-Fiber Variable Attenuator Arrays with Polymer-Network Liquid Crystals", Applied Optics, Vol. 40, No. 21, pp. 3509-3517, July 2001.

hio ✓ 5. K. Hirabayashi et al., "Liquid Crystal Variable Optical Attenuators Integrated on Planar Lightwave Circuits", IEEE Photonics Technology Letters, Vol. 13, No. 6, pp. 609-611, June 2001.

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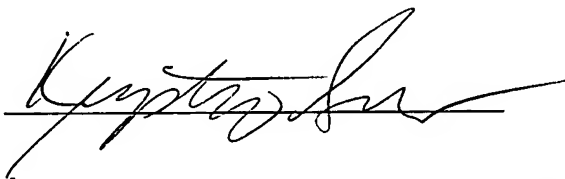
NO / 6. Y. Inoue et al., "Elimination of Polarization Sensitivity in Silica-Based Wavelength Division Multiplexer Using a Polyimide Half Waveplate", Journal of Lightwave Technology, Vol. 15, No. 10, pp. 1947-1957, June 2001.

NO / 7. M. Kurono, "High Speed Polarization Control Using a Four-Electrode LN Crystal", the Transaction of IEE, Vol. 118-C, No. 5, pp. 649-655, 1998, (translation of Abstract only).

NO / 8. K. Takizawa et al., "Polarization-Independent Optical Fiber Modulator by Use of Polymer-Dispersed Liquid Crystals", Applied Optics, Vol. 37, No. 15, pp. 3181-3189, 1998.

NO 9. H. Shimizu et al., "Endless Polarization Controller Using Electro-Optic Waveplates", Electronics Letters, Vol. 24, No. 7, pp. 412-413, 1988.

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